News and Services from Swem Library at The College of William & Mary • March 2011

The Digital Age of Revolutions



We know you work hard here at Swem, but that doesn't mean you can't stay connected to important developments. Go beyond the boob tube coverage by searching

international newspaper and newswire sources. For the latest news on the protests in Egypt, Bahrain, Libya, Yemen, and Iran, start at the database link from the Swem homepage and try *Access World News*, *Lexis Nexis Academic*, *factiva*, or *World News Connection*. It's a big world out there.

Potty on dude!

The writers here at The Throne take our doodies seriously to keep you well informed about the latest and greatest in toilets. From books such as *The Big Necessity: The Unmentionable World of Human Waste and Why it Matters* to *Toilet: Public Restrooms and the Politics of Sharing,* to the staff's all-time favorite, *Toilets of the World,* to scholarly articles for some nuggets of information on the history of toilets (quite an interesting term paper topic, no?), The Throne is here to help.

If you are interested in the world's most expensive toilet made of solid gold, check out:



Did you ever wonder why girls go to the bathroom together?

Apparently, they always have:



Heated seats are just the beginning. Air deodorizing, medical sensors, sounds or music (to relax or inspire), antibacterial sprayers, and automatic lid openers are generally included. So if you need to sniff out some good sources for your research, look no further!

I had a lot of dates but I decided to stay home and dye my eyebrows. -Andy Warhol

You find just what you want in the library catalog but are stopped in your tracks when you see DATE DUE NEVER. (That just means a faculty member has the book checked out. Don't ask.) Whenever you're confronted with the grim reality that what you want has left

the building, don't despair. Interlibrary Loan will be happy to take your requests. It's free and usually faster than a speeding bullet.

You think that's something?
My mother ironed wrapping paper and saved string.

Times change, but the need to recycle remains the same. We're now a campus collection point for old batteries, cell phones, and ink cartridges. Drop yours off in the boxes near the circulation desk. On a related note: don't forget to stop by the book exchange in the Read & Relax area and pick up a book or leave one you've finished with. Another great way to recycle.

What about Nothing?

While the College's catalog offers courses covering a large number of subjects which are all certainly very important to any student pursuing a degree in the liberal arts, The Throne notices the absence of one topic—Nothing—the study of which it believes would contribute to a well-rounded education. There are scholarly resources available for researching this topic. A simple subject search of Swem Library's catalog on the term "nothing" reveals such titles as The Secret World of Doing Nothing, by Billy Ehn (what goes on in the minds of people when they seem to be doing nothing?); Nothing: A Very Short Introduction, by F.E. Close; Let's Do Nothing, by Tony Fucile, and many more. Of course, a prime resource which should not be neglected when pursuing this topic, readily available in Swem Library's Popular DVD collection, is the TV series Seinfeld (billed as being "about nothing"). And what better place is there than the library for a moment of experiential learning? Find a comfortable chair in a quiet corner and for a minute or two try doing nothing!